

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment claims 1-8, 10, 11 and 13-18 are pending in the application.

Examination of the claims is respectfully requested. Amendments to, cancellation of, and additions to, the claims, as set forth above, are made in order to streamline prosecution in this case by limiting examination and argument to certain claimed embodiments that presently are considered to be of immediate commercial significance. Amendment or cancellation of the claims is not in any manner intended to, and should not be construed to, waive Applicants' right in the future to seek such unamended or cancelled subject matter, or similar matter (whether in equivalent, broader, or narrower form) in the present application, and any continuation, divisional, continuation-in-part, RCE, or any other application claiming priority to or through the present application, nor in any manner to indicate an intention, expressed or implied, to surrender any equivalent to the claims as pending after such amendments or cancellations.

1. **Response to Arguments**

Applicant herewith submits the certified translation of foreign priority document DE 10251759.0.

2. **Rejection of claims 1-8, 10-11, and 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rink et al (DE 10305076).**

Applicant relies on the arguments submitted in the Amendment submitted on October 3, 2008 as set forth below.

Applicants respectfully traverse. The instant application has a priority date of November 5, 2002 (Germany 10251759.0). The cited reference has a priority date of February 7, 2003. A certified translation of the foreign priority document is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55 to remove the Rink reference as available prior art.

CONCLUSION

Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the Application and pending claims are patentable in view of the foregoing amendments and/or remarks. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. As always, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Undersigned by telephone if direct conversation would be helpful.

Respectfully Submitted,

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